

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SCEM-02

CIEP-02 SCI-06 NEA-10 INT-08 DRC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

/166 W

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P R 090945Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9594

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 4327

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: PETROLEUM CUTBACKS

REF: A) STATE 220962 B) STATE 216846 C) SINGAPORE 4304

1. LOCAL ESSO MANAGER CONFIRMS GOS HAS "REQUESTED"
ESSO TERMINATE BUNKERING SERVICES AND SHIPMENTS FROM
ESSO SINGAPORE REFINERY TO US MILITARY CUSTOMERS.
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EMBOFF WILL MEET WITH ESSO LATE TODAY AND REPORT

FURTHER DETAILS.

2. ESSO SINGAPORE, REPORTEDLY ON INSTRUCTION FROM US HEADQUARTERS, NOTIFIED US NAVY OFFICE (USNO) SINGAPORE NOVEMBER 8 THEY UNABLE TO PROVIDE FUEL FOR USN VESSELS CALLING HERE. USNO INFORMED VERBALLY THAT ESSO HAD INFORMED DEFENSE FUELS SUPPLY AGENCY, ALEXANDRIA, VA., THAT SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT INSISTING THAT ALL ESSO/EXXON REFINERIES RECEIVING SAUDI CRUDE NOT REPEAT NOT SUPPLY ANY US MILITARY REQUIREMENTS. SINCE LOCEL REFINERY HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON SAUDI CRUDE, ESSO FORCED TO TERMINATE SUPPLY OF USN REQUIREMENTS IN SINGAPORE. ALTHOUGH SUPPLY CONTRACT EXISTS, THEY PLEAD FORCE MAJEURE. UNTIL RECEIPT REF A, NO INDICATION OF GOS INTERVENTION.

3. TO SOME EXTENT IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF USN SHIPS BEING MET BY OIL OBTAINED FROM ROYAL NAVY STOCKPILES IN SINGAPORE. U.S. NAVY OFFICE NOW SEEKING ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF SUPPLY, MAINLY FROM SHELL AND CALTEX.

4. SINGAPORE PETROLEUM COMPANY (SPC), JOINT-VENTURE BETWEEN AMOCO, SUMMIT AND DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SINGAPORE, IS NEWEST REFINERY HERE. FOR NEXT NINE MONTHS, SPC DEPENDS ON SUPPLY OF CRUDE FROM OTHER OIL COMPANIES. THEY ARE AFRAID THEIR CRUDE MAY BE CUT OFF WHEN CUTBACKS IN CRUDE FELT HERE. SPC HAS RECEIVED REQUESTS FROM CUSTOMERS FOR SUPPLY GUARANTEES. GOS INFORMED AMOCO THAT FONMIN PLANS APPROACH KUWAIT AND SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENTS WITH REQUEST THAT SINGAPORE BE PUT ON "GOOD GUY LIST" TO ALLOW FULL SHIPMENTS OF CRUDE TO SINGAPORE. GOS WILL POINT OUT SPC SUPPLIES THREE MUSLIM COUNTRIES, MALAYSIA, BANGLADESH AND INDONESIA, WITH PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.

5. U.S. OIL REFINERIES EXPECT 10-20 PERCENT CUTBACK IN CRUDE SUPPLIES TO SINGAPORE-BASED REFINERIES, BUT CANNOT PREDICT WHEN IT WILL START.

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